

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 02255 260527Z

15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 SAM-01 PRS-01 L-01 SP-02 SSO-00 /043 W
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P R 260330Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4969

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC

S E C R E T TAIPEI 2255

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR TW TH RP CH

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH CHIANG CHING-KUO

REF: A. TAIPEI 2174 (NOTAL)

B. STATE 089943 (NOTAL)

C. STATE 092785 (NOTAL)

D. USDLO HONG KONG 160917Z APRIL, IR 6 842 0186 75

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. IN COURSE OF AN HOUR AND HALF DISCUSSION WITH
PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO AT TZU HU FRIDAY MORNING,
PREMIER EXPLAINED THAT ALTHOUGH HE WAS STILL "ON
LEAVE" AND WOULD BE UNTIL END OF OFFICIAL MOURNING
PERIOD MAY 6, HE NEVERTHELESS WANTED TO TALK WITH ME
BEFORE I LEFT FOR WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS. ALSO
PRESENT AS INTERPRETER WAS MINISTER-WITHOUT-PORTFOLIO

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SECRET

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 02255 260527Z

CHOU SHU-K'AI. CONVERSATION WAS VERY WIDE-RANGING,

DWELLING AT LENGTH ON HIS FATHER'S CAREER AND WHAT CCK HAS FOUND IN REVIEWING HIS FATHER'S PAPERS. ON BASIS THOSE PAPERS AND HIS OWN CONVICTION, HE REITERATED A HE HAD EARLIER STATED TO VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER THE CENTRAL THEME OF GROC FOREIGN POLICY, NAMELY, MAINTAINING CLOSE TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES AND DETERMINATION TO FIGHT COMMUNISM.

2. PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO ALSO TOUCHED ON FOLLOWING MATTERS OF CURRENT INTEREST:

A. HE MENTIONED RECENT CONTACTS WITH JAPANESE (I PRESUME THESE TOOK PLACE WHEN KISHI AND SATO WERE IN TAIWAN FOR PRESIDENT'S FUNERAL), SAYING THAT BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED STRONG DESIRE FOR EXPANDING CONTACTS IN ALL FIELDS EXCEPTS DIPLOMATIC. HOW TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WAS DISCUSSED BUT PREMIER DID NOT MENTION SPECIFIC MEASURES. HE ALSO SAID EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN ALREADY CLOSE RELATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA.

B. WHEN I ASKED WHAT THOUGHTS HE HAD ABOUT IMPACT ON MAINLAND CHINA OF RECENT EVENTS INDOCHINA, PREMIER CHIANG SAID ALTHOUGH THIS BRINGS SOME SATISFACTION TEMPORARILY TO COMMUNIST CAMP, HE EXPECTS IT IN LONG RUN TO INTENSIFY CONFLICT BETWEEN PEKING AND MOSCOW. AS REGARDS ITS IMPACT ON MAINLAND'S ACTIONS TOWARD TAIWAN, HE ANTICIPATED AN INTENSIFIED PERIOD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE, AND HE CITED THE TEN "PUPPETS" RELEASED BY PRC AS CASE IN POINT. HE HAS GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO REJECT ANY EFFORTS THEY MAKE TO VISIT HERE BECAUSE IN THE FIRST PLACE THIS WOULD BE A DANGEROUS OPENING OF CONTACTS. EVEN MORE, HE WAS PERSUADED THAT THE MAINLAND'S GAME IS TO USE THE RELEASED PRISONERS AS A PROPAGANDA PLOY, AND HAVE THEM RETURN TO THE MAINLAND AFTER VISITING HERE; IF THE RELEASED PRISONERS CHOSE TO REMAIN HERE IT WOULD THEN BE CHARGED THAT THEY WERE BEING KEPT AGAINST THEIR WILL. I ONLY OBSERVED THAT THIS WAS, AS HE HAD SAID, A PROPAGANDA PLOY BUT THAT AS MATTERS STOOD IT SEEMED TO ME THAT THE ROC WAS BEING PUT IN A VERY DEFENSIVE POSITION. ONLY ADDITIONAL POINT PREMIER MADE ON THIS MATTER IS THAT HE HAS NO RECOLLECTION OF SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 TAIPEI 02255 260527Z

THE PERSON WHO HAS SEVERAL TIMES REFERRED TO HAVING KNOWN AND WORKED WITH CCK FOR ABOUT TEN YEARS (CCK PRESUMABLY REFERRING TO TSAI SHENG-SAN OR POSSIBLY CHOU YAUN-HAO - REF D).

C. WE DISCUSSED SOUTH VIETNAM SITUATION AND PROBLEM OF EVACUATING GROC MISSION AND CHINESE RESIDENTS THERE. I READ SAIGON 5445 AND MENTIONED MY CLOSE CONTINUING CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN AND

AMBASSADOR MARTIN. PREMIER SAID ROC PROBLEM IS THAT ON ONE HAND ITS EMBASSY STAFF, IF TAKEN BY COMMUNISTS, WOULD BE TREATED AS POLITICAL PRISONERS, UNLIKE OTHER DIPLOMATS. ON OTHER HAND THERE IS GREAT CONCERN OVER ABANDONING CHINESE POPULATION WITH ITS ANTI-COMMUNISTS ASSOCIATIONS. I SAID I THOUGHT THEIR AMBASSADOR ON THE SPOT HAD BEST BASIS FOR JUDGING WHEN THEY MUST MOVE AND I KNEW HE WAS IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH OUR EMBASSY. (LATER CHOU SHU-K'AI TOLD ME AMBASSADOR HSU IN SAIGON HAS DISCRETION TO DECIDE ON EVACUATION TIMING.)

3. IN COUSE OF GENERAL DISCUSSION I CONVEYED MESSAGE CONTAINED PARA 3 REF B.

4. IN MORE GENERAL VEINN PREMIER SAID HE HOPED UNITED STATES WOULD BE ABLE TO PROVE SOME REASSURANCE IN ORDER TO STABILIZE THE SITUATION PARTICULARLY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND WHERE THE INDOCHINA EVENTS HAVE TAKEN SERIOUS TOLL. HE OBSERVED THAT ALSO AS A RESULT OF THOSE EVENTS THE POSITION OF NORTHEAST ASIA WILL BE OF INCREASING IMPORTANCE AND TRUSTED THAT WE WERE REASSESSING OUR POSITION AND POLICIES THERE TO GIVE THEM FULLEST WEIGHT AND SUPPORT. IT WAS MY IMPRESSION THAT HE INTENDED HIS REFERENCE ALSO TO INCLUDE THE ROLE OF TAIWAN. SINCE HIS COMMENTS ALSO APPEARED TO REFLECT KNOWLEDGE OF TWO JAPANESE NEWS STORIES ABOUT A NEW LINE OF DEFENSE, I TOLD HIM THESE STORIES WERE "ENTIRELY WITHOUT FOUNDATION" IN ACCORDANCE REF C.
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